

CONGREGATION
Kol Ami
VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, January 1, at 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, January 2, at 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue

FRIDAY, January 8
6:00 p.m. - “Fun-for-Kids” *erev Shabbat Service*; appropriate for all ages! It’s a happy half hour with lots of music

7:30 p.m. - “Second-Friday” *erev Shabbat Service* with birthday and anniversary blessings

SATURDAY, January 9, 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue

FRIDAY, January 15, at 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service with book reviewer extraordinaire Beverly Rosen when she’ll review Daniel Torday’s debut novel, The Last Flight of Paxol West (see page 9).

SATURDAY, January 16, 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue

FRIDAY, January 22
6:00 p.m. - “Fun-for-Kids” *erev Shabbat Service* - appropriate for all ages! It’s a happy half hour with lots of music and the voices of our Student Choir; preceded by a pizza dinner at 5:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. - *Shir Shabbat Service* led by the women of the congregation (see page 10)

SATURDAY, January 23, 10:00 a.m.
Bat Mitzvah of Hope Falon-Mazer in the Chapel (see page 12)

FRIDAY, January 29, at 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service

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CONVERSATIONS: CIVIL WRESTLING WITH IDEAS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, AT 7:30 P.M., AT THE HOME OF JONATHAN SMOLOWE AND VERA FRUMIN IN RYDAL



Over the High Holy Days, Rabbi Holin invited members to join him in “Conversations” about things that we feel deeply about, with the goal “not to change minds, but to better understand what motivates others to advocate positions different from ours.”

Our first gathering was on November 16 at the home of Shelley and David Chamberlain. Ten of us wrestled with different opinions about Israel, Muslims, and God, allocating about half an hour to each topic, chosen by those present for discussion.

We can revisit the topics in the previous paragraph, and consider the following topics for our next dialogue as well:

- Living with fear, living with faith
- Living in the age of social media: how and what do you do to make time for real connections and conversations, and how do you actualize *tikun olam* (making the world a better place)?
- What are your favorite Jewish possessions? Bring them with you!
- What have been transforming moments in your life? Did you summon those moments, or did they just arrive, as if unbidden?

Civil wrestling with ideas.

Please call the synagogue office at 215-635-3110 by January 24 to let us know that you will join us. ■

ADULT BNAI MITZVAH COURSE

As mentioned in last month’s Bulletin, if you are interested in taking Rabbi Holin’s two-year course commencing in November and leading to an adult *Bnai Mitzvah* service in Spring 2018, please call him at 215-635-4182. ■

WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued from page 1)

SATURDAY, January 30

10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue*; the *dvar Torah* will be given by Carol Nemeroff

5:30 p.m. - *Bat Mitzvah* of Jenna Margasak (see page 12) ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

January 2 - *Sheymote*

Exodus 1:1-6:1, Isaiah 27:6-28:13

January 9 - *Vaera*

Exodus 6:2-9:35, Isaiah 66:1-24

January 16 - *Bo*

Exodus 10:1-13:16, Jeremiah 46:13-28

January 23 - *B'Shalach*

Exodus 13:17-17:16, Judges 4:4-5:31

January 30 - *Yitro*

Exodus 18:1-20:23, Isaiah 6:1-7:6 ■

MAZAL TOV

We congratulate the following:

Jonathan and Sheri Cutler on the engagement of their son, Jesse, to Rachel Green.

Elijah and Gennifer Dornstreich, along with big sister Miriam, on the birth of their daughter, Penelope Anne, born on December 7.

Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry on the marriage of their daughter, Dr. Elisabeth Edelstein to Ryan Ingwersen on September 19 in San Diego, CA.

William England on being elected President of the Cheltenham School Board.

Joel Fishbein on being elected to the Cheltenham School Board

Lia Hyman on being selected for the Satell Teen Fellowship for Leadership and Social Activism.

Maya Hyman, a sophomore at The College of New Jersey, elected as co-president of Hillel.

Rebecca Schwartz on her appointment to the Worship, Music, and Religious Life Committee of the URJ. ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Rabbi Elliot Holin welcomed attendees as they began the morning immersed in learning about the intersection of food, sustainability, and Jewish life.

The third annual *Hazon* Jewish Food Festival, proudly co-hosted on November 15 by Congregations Kol Ami and Keneseth Israel, brought together hundreds of attendees from our region, including many Kol Ami members. This year's theme was "the intersection of food, sustainability & Jewish life." Rabbi Holin welcomed attendees as we began the morning immersed in learning from the keynote panel focused on the complex issue of raising animals, taking good care of them while they are alive, slaughtering methods, and eating meat. Break-

out sessions covered a range of topics. Engaged experts were convened to teach us about various concerns including *Shechting* (the kosher Jewish ritual of slaughter), sustainable seafood, GMOs, food justice and hunger solutions, the growing cooperative movement, ethical eating, and tips to make institutions more sustainable — and more! Cooking demonstrations were offered, and there was a Marketplace to discover, taste, and purchase local food products.

Hazon, the Hebrew word for vision, was founded in 2000, and is so appropriately named as this non-profit works to create a healthier and more sustainable Jewish community, and a healthier and more sustainable world for all. Many Kol Ami members have played key roles on *Hazon's* advisory board and/or participated in planning successful bike rides and educational programs. This year, Ellen Friedman co-chaired the Food Festival.

To learn more about the organization and all they offer, visit their website at <http://hazon.org/>. In addition, turn to page 6 to read inspirational comments from our members who attended the *Hazon* Food Festival and have been inspired to change behavior.

Our planet is made up of finite resources, and it is our responsibility to ensure that we don't destroy it. The concept of "sustainability" involves working to make sure our planet meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Interestingly, there was not always a Hebrew word for this concept. Recently, the term *kayamut* תומיך has been adopted, which literally means "foreverness" or "in perpetuity," a beautiful way to express this complicated concept.

The *Hazon* Food Festival is a day of warm community, delicious ethical food, and inspiring learning. But it doesn't stop there. This inspiration drives Kol Ami's commitment to host events during the year that educate and inspire us to take steps to move in the direction of becoming more connected to the land and supporting sustainability.

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

The photo is unforgettable and heartbreaking: a little boy in a red T-shirt, blue shorts, and Velcro sneakers, found face-down on a Turkish beach. His lifeless body was carried in the arms of a Turkish paramilitary police officer. Would that photo elicit as much compassion today as it did when it was published on September 2, 2015?

The little boy's name was Aylan Kurdi, and he was just 3 years old. He came from the Syrian city of Kobani, and he was one of 23 Syrians who set out on two boats for the 13-mile journey to the Greek island of Kos, seeking refuge from the horrors of the civil war in Syria that has raged for over four years at the cost of the lives of over 250,000 children, women, and men. Four million Syrians have fled their country. Thousands have died on the perilous journey across the Aegean, Ionian, and Mediterranean Seas. Earlier that day, Aylan's mother had dressed him and his 5-year-old brother for their journey to freedom, having paid smugglers for spaces on small boats.

The boats capsized. He died. His mother and brother died. Aylan's father, Abdullah Kurdi, recalled what happened: "A wave came and flipped us over. I grabbed my sons and my wife and we held onto the boat. We stayed like that for an hour, then the first son died and I left him so I can help the other. Then the second died, so I left him as well to help his Mom and I found her dead. My wife is my world and [now] I have nothing...I am choking, I cannot breathe. They died in my arms."

Heart-rending are these words spoken by a Syrian father: "The Arab world is 5 million square miles. When my son was born, among the worst thoughts was how it has no space for him."

Many of the refugees are children who do not have the strength to wander the globe, and their parents do not have an endless reservoir of hope. We are their lifeline. But now in America, legitimate concerns about terrorism have given way to fear of "the other" expressed with such escalating anger that I shudder. Politicians stoke the flames of hatred, seemingly oblivious about where the sparks land to kindle new fires of intolerance. We should have seen this coming, this drive to remove "the other" from our midst. The words "anchor babies" were the hint of rising intolerance. The broad brush of indictment smears the American landscape.

Thirty-six times in the *Torah*, we are reminded to "remember the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." We know the heart of the stranger. Is America's heart big enough to welcome "the stranger"?

The challenges we face with the arrival of "the stranger" are significant, but I am not convinced that terrorism is the greatest one. Many refugees will arrive with emotional distress, mental and physical health issues, and elevated risks of psychosis. How will we care for them? How will we treat them, in both senses of the word?

Do we have the courage to confront bigots whose desire to "make America great" is founded on making new victims of those who have been victimized abroad?

America's greatness is found in the words of America, the Beautiful:

America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea."

To which, let us say: Amen. ■

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

215-635-4182

Shelley Chamberlain, President

215-635-1738

Ellen Asam, Vice President

215-635-5598

Julie Cohen, Vice President

215-635-4716

Jeffrey Margasak, Secretary

215-635-9332

Lisa Landau, Treasurer

215-635-9996

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**IN RESPECT OF SHABBAT, THE OFFICE
CLOSES AT 3:00 P.M. ON FRIDAYS.**

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director

215-635-3110

David Monblatt

Director of Education

215-635-7106

Sheri Cutler

Early Learning Center Director

215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:

Congregation Kol Ami

8201 High School Road

Elkins Park, PA 19027

Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark>

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (e.g., by January 5 for the February issue) to **Janet Falon** at jfalon@english.upenn.edu. Articles may be edited as needed. ■





**"We thank God for
the gift of life, and
so too for the gift
of memory."**

My *yahrzeit* plaque lists my father. He died five months before my *Bar Mitzvah*, after a long struggle with cancer. The plaque makes me think about how much he would just love to see how things turned out with his family, and it acts as a reminder for me not to take life for granted.

— *Barry Boise*

When praying in view of my parents' *yahrzeit* plaques, communion with G-d is made more meaningful. I feel their presence and commitment to Judaism. *L'dor v'dor*. I am reminded that each of us is just one small link in an historic chain with the enormous responsibility to maintain its vitality.

— *David Hyman*



The *yahrzeit* wall moves me every time I walk in the sanctuary and see my father's name. I touch his plaque, and even after ten years, my emotions well to the surface. Honoring his memory in this enduring fashion with our beautiful wall has been a salve to my soul.

— *Ilene Schafer*

The loss of one my dearest, esteemed elders this past year was extremely saddening and overwhelming to me. Being able to have a plaque in the *yahrzeit* wall brings me a feeling of peace, knowing that she is still a part of my life, our lives, as a treasured member of this congregation.

— *Elaine Stevens*

I was so happy when Kol Ami put up the *yahrzeit* wall. There was no question that Bert and I wanted my mother and his father's names on the wall; and every time I see it, I become filled with emotion and memories of our parents. I know they would be pleased to be remembered this way. When our dear friend, Garret Kine, died suddenly last year, we decided his name should be there as well. He grew up in Elkins Park about two blocks from Kol Ami, and even though he lived in San Francisco, it felt like we were bringing him home. He would be delighted to know his memory is being honored in our synagogue.

— *Ronit Sugar*

***For further information about our Yahrzeit Wall and the plaques,
please contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org. ■***

ADULT LEARNING AT KOL AMI

CONTINUING JEWISH EDUCATION

The non-member rate is \$50 per course; direct questions and RSVPs to Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110.



Practicing Meditation: Experiencing the Peace of Stillness and De-stressifying

Instructor: Orly Maravankin, Ph.D.
Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
January 14, 21 & 28 (3 Sessions)

Meditation takes us beyond the mental prison of doubt, stress, and judgment to the field of expanded awareness where we become more conscious of the choices available to us and where we connect with our true self. From this platform, we are able to make life-affirming choices that support our emotional and physical well-being.

The purpose of the class is to demystify meditation and provide practical guidance for building a successful practice. The class will introduce the principles of meditation in general and Primordial Sound Meditation in particular. We will discuss the origins of meditation, the benefits, and practical tips. We will also explore a vision for higher states of consciousness that unfold through a regular practice of meditation where we become more conscious of our higher self. Each class will include a group meditation.

Requirements: Registrants must participate in the first class as this is sequential learning.

Maximum number of participants: 15 people, with priority given to members of our congregation.

RSVP to the synagogue office by January 5.

Shakespeare and Faith

Instructor: Cary Mazer, Ph.D.
Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
February 2, 9, 16 & 23 (4 Sessions)

How do the plays take the characters, and the audience, through the crucible of experience in ways that test their faith, or that lead them to an understanding of themselves in relation to their faith in themselves, in one another, and/or in a natural, and possibly, divine order?

FEBRUARY 2 - As You Like It: love, faith, empathy, and the power of the imagination

FEBRUARY 9 - The Merchant of Venice: love, commerce, and the social fabric

FEBRUARY 16 - King Lear: how does one survive in a world that appears to have lost all meaning?

FEBRUARY 23 - The Winter's Tale: learning to forgive oneself

RSVP to the synagogue office by January 25. ■





CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Honey Kraemer

*grandmother of Brett (Aimee) Kraemer
great-grandmother of Alexandra and Aria*

Ida Wax

aunt of Guy (Karol) Appel

May their memories forever be blessings in the midst of our People. ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings are held at the Synagogue, unless otherwise noted.

Inclusion Committee

Sunday, January 24, at 10:30 a.m.
Co-chairs: Barry Boise, 215-635-9042,
and Joel Fishbein, 215-635-3615

Operations Committee

Monday, January 11, at 7:30 p.m.
Co-chairs: Guy Appel, 215-938-9330,
and Marshall Schafer, 215-663-0228

Religious School PTO

Sunday, January 10, at 11:00 a.m.
Co-chairs: Erica Douglas, 215-491-0630,
and Deborah Poppel, 215-947-2252

Social Action Committee

Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Jody Long, 215-635-4751,
and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

Spiritual Growth Group

Monday, January 25, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Janet Falon, 215-635-1698,
and Meryl Gurmankin, 215-464-2466 ■

REFLECTIONS FROM KOL AMI MEMBERS: 2015 HAZON FOOD FESTIVAL - CONTINUING TO TOUCH LIVES IN POWERFUL WAYS

- “I was impressed with the commitment and knowledge of those surrounding me at the Food Festival. The bike ride in New Jersey is always a great time, but this was my first conference! I see why Shelley is inspired and committed and has led us at home with positive changes over the years. It’s just a part of our lives.” —*David Chamberlain*
- “I’m inspired by the value of education to so many of us in our community. The conference helped many to see how they spend their food dollars, the choices that represents, as a powerful investment that can be consistent with their Jewish values and can help shape and create incentives for farmers and producers trying to offer sustainable food options. It has me re-doubling my efforts to spend with clear intent to make the world a better place.” —*Jeff Cohen*
- “Members of our congregation have been instrumental in the creation and sustenance of the local CSA program hosted at our synagogue, and people in the community-at-large have also been supportive of the LFF farm families and their devotion to organic agriculture, so I was inspired to attend the conference to meet other like-minded individuals.

I learned that there is so much to learn. The teaching-dialogue themes were numerous and varied, and the greatest challenge was to determine which ones to attend! The devotion to research, application of knowledge, community building, and local endeavors to bring healthy food to tables, and food co-ops that have become communal anchors...all inspired me to learn more.” —*Rabbi Elliot Holin*
- “This is the third Philadelphia *Hazon* Food Conference I have attended, and each year, I build on my knowledge about the complex topics related to food, the environment, and the connection to Judaism. Before becoming involved with *Hazon* nine years ago, I rarely (if at all) thought about where the food I eat comes from. One of the sessions I attended this year called ‘Pasture to Plate: Understanding Local Meat,’ was a fascinating discussion about the various ways animals we eat live and die, how meat is processed for sale, and tips and challenges for consuming responsibly raised meats. Throughout the conference, I was inspired by the depth of thinking and the mutual respect these speakers had for all types of Jewish choices and eating habits. Carnivores, vegetarians, pescatarians, vegans, meat reductionists, some traditionally kosher, some eco-kosher, some not kosher, some not Jewish, come together to talk and learn about sustainability and action.” —*Karin Kaplan*
- “The keynote panel discussion on farm animal awareness was framed by the questions how far have we in the *Hazon* Food Movement have come in the past seven years and where do we want to go in the next seven-year cycle. I am proud and gratified by the difference that members of Kol Ami have made on this front in our own lives, in our community, and our region through the Elkins Park *Hazon* CSA, CreekSide Co-op, and *Hazon* Philadelphia. I’m re-inspired to continue to learn, grow, and share in practices of food sustainability and ethics through the lens of our Jewish traditions.” —*Mark Kaplan*

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- “We learned how to *spatchcock* a turkey — it’s not dirty — but it was great! Fun, easy, and delish!” —*Ellen Horowitz Matz*
- “I was inspired to go to the *Hazon* Food Conference because I wanted to learn how, beyond being kosher, I could strengthen my experience of living Jewishly through eating daily meals. This is exciting and a challenge. I have volunteered to do a *d’var* on Jewish animal ethics, which will help me gain a better understanding of this topic.” Join me at this service (date to be determined) so we may engage in dialogue. —*Betty Shapiro*
- “Going to the *Hazon* conference inspired me to get involved in the *Shomrei Adamah* committee at Kol Ami, and I also like the idea discussed at the conference to eat meat on holidays and *Shabbat*, but less at other times.” —*Bill Shapiro*
- “I attended the keynote, two sessions, had lunch, and walked through the marketplace. It was an interesting and inspiring day. The keynote was very interesting. Having multiple perspectives about humane, ethical, sustainable practices raising animals we eat showed there is room for diversity and difference. Each speaker was respectful of the differences among them, but all emphasized the Jewish ethics and sustainability informing their decisions. The workshops were also informative. Drexel faculty explained the workings of the food lab and their culinary programs and how they work to avoid wasting food—using all existing resources. The information shared spoke some to food insecurity. The last workshop was very engaging, using *Torah* to underscore the value of vegetarianism/vegan diets. It was very interesting, and the teacher was quite passionate without trying to press his enthusiasm for his Vegan lifestyle onto others.” —*Jane Tausig* ■

KOL AMI LEGACY SOCIETY

The Kol Ami Legacy Society would like to thank all of our participants for their consideration of our wonderful synagogue in their future plans.

Remember, a small change in a will or codicil or a beneficiary change to an insurance policy from the smallest amount on up is all that’s needed to join.

If you are interested or have questions, feel free to call Ilene Schafer at 215-663-0228 or ask Elaine Stevens for a revocable letter of intent.

Help secure our future and thanks again to our participants:

David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Carol Baron
Michael and Sara Chernoff
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Elizabeth Kapnek Grenald
Rabbi Elliot and Susan Holin
David Hyman
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Lee Laden
John Michel and Jane Finkle
Craig and Sharon Myers
Marshall and Ilene Schafer
Gary Sender
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser
The Wintroub Family ■



PRESIDENT’S LETTER

(continued from page 2)

I invite you to join this movement by attending the Kol Ami *Tu B’shvat Seder*, on January 24 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. For those who have been, you know exactly how special this evening is. For those who have never attended, I encourage you to clear your calendar, sign up, and bring family and friends. This is a night of inspiration, celebration, and fun learning on our Jewish journey. The *Torah* is seen as a “tree of life,” a growing and abundant source of spiritual sustenance. The tree has been a symbol of life and continues to be a source of life for Israel today.

On *Tu B’shvat*, we celebrate that life in joy and appreciation. We introduce the seven species to remind us that the land will take care of us. We examine (as well as eat) fruits and nuts that have pits or not, have edible or inedible outer shells, as they represent the choices we make about what we eat and the resources we use that impact our “good” land. This is the evening to openly discuss how to create a healthier and more sustainable community around the *Seder* table. An evening to sing along with Lia Hyman and learn from our fourth/fifth graders. This is the evening that we share a community-prepared vegetarian meal and really taste what we receive from the land and our bakers (those volunteers who lovingly prepare bread and sweets). The details are included in this Bulletin. I promise that you will be engaged and enlightened.

As we begin 2016, I extend my best wishes for a healthy, happy new year and invite you to be a part of Kol Ami’s journey in securing a sustainable future for many future generations to come. *Chag Sameach!*

Shelley Chamberlain
215-635-1738
srchamberlain@comcast.net ■

Kol Ami Events



CONGREGATION KOL AMI'S 2016 FAMILY TRIP TO ISRAEL

**Leave for Israel on Sunday afternoon, August 21,
and return early Thursday morning, September 1**

Join Rabbi Holin on an exciting and enriching journey for children {eight years of age or older at the time of the trip}, youth and adults to experience Israel! The trip is designed to be child-friendly and family-fun in ways that will touch your heart and mind.

**Round trip on El Al from Newark International Airport;
to/from airport by chartered bus from the synagogue**

August 22-24: Tel Aviv

August 25-26: Galilee

August 27-31: Jerusalem

Invite your unaffiliated friends with children to join us as well!

Please call Rabbi Holin at 215-635-3110 to let him know you'll be part of this amazing experience.



תגלית • בִּרְתִּיּוֹת
BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL

A Free 10-Day Trip to Israel for Young Jewish Adults

This once-in-a-lifetime experience is available to all young Jewish adults ages 18 to 26 (post-high-school) who have not participated on a peer educational trip since they turned 18. Eligible individuals are those who identify as Jewish and are recognized as such by their local community or by one of the recognized denominations of Judaism.

Pre-register for Summer 2016 and Winter 2016/17 trips now at www.birthrightisrael.com/go. If you want to travel with the Reform Movement's trip, choose URJ Keshet as the trip organizer at www.gokeshet.org.



FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Join Rabbi Holin in fast days—or virtual fast days—every month, no matter where you are, by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help men, women, and children in need:

NATAL (*nah'tahl*) – the **Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War** – addresses Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

of combat veterans and former prisoners of war, as well as those who have lost loved ones in battle or suicide bombings, and anyone who suffers the sustained emotional and mental pressure of living with the fear and uncertainty that war and the threat of war bring. In addition, NATAL reaches out to families and relatives of victims and bereaved families through on-site counseling, a national hotline, and free or subsidized psychological assistance and treatment by highly trained professionals.

“For some children, the color red is not just a color.”

During Operation Protective Edge, NATAL answered thousands of calls every day and night from children and adults. Clinical staff and highly trained volunteers were enlisted to respond to this increased need. Working with Israel's media, millions of people received information about when, where, and how to get help. NATAL's emergency kits consist of information about trauma and methods of staying calm, as well as therapeutic tools to aid in managing tension. There is still a strong demand for thousands of these kits to be distributed to individuals, schools, and communities throughout Israel.

Forthcoming fast days on behalf of **NATAL** will be on first Wednesdays, **January 6** and **February 3**.

PHAST FOR PHILADELPHIA is on behalf of unemployed workers in Philadelphia who are struggling to make ends meet by helping them pay their mortgages, address health-care needs, and pay electric bills.

Forthcoming **Phast for Philadelphia** fast days will be on fourth Thursdays, **January 28** and **February 25**.

Below are the mailing addresses for the organizations mentioned above:

American Friends of NATAL

1120 Avenue of the Americas, Fourth Floor
New York, NY 10036

continued next page

Unemployment Information Center

112 N. Broad Street, 11th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102

(make check payable to Unemployment Information Center with a memo note "Philadelphia Unemployment Office")

"SECOND-FRIDAY" EREV SHABBAT JANUARY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Friday, January 8, at 7:30 p.m.



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in January, please join us at our special *erev Shabbat* service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with a January *simcha* under a *tallit*. Watch for your invitation for this special *Shabbat simcha*.

Rabbi Holin will continue to send personal letters to everyone celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary ending with 0 or 5 (for example, 40, 45). If you have a special 0 or 5 birthday or anniversary, you will be invited to participate in any Friday service in "your" month by blessing the candles or *challah*, or reciting the *Kiddush*, or at any Saturday service that month by carrying or blessing the *Torah*.

MUSIC & MUSINGS

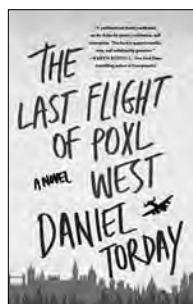
Sunday, January 10, from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m.

an informal gathering to experience the meaning and joy of *Shabbat* through music, and dialogues about what is going on in the world around us and within us: "God in the Jewish tradition and in our lives - present or absent?"

This is an invitation to religious school parents and all adults to join us for "Music & Musings" through song (10:00-10:25 a.m.), guided by Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz's selection of songs that we enjoy on *Shabbat* mornings, and with Rabbi Holin to talk (10:30-11:15 a.m.) about God-wrestling.

BOOK REVIEW WITH BEVERLY ROSEN

at our *erev Shabbat* Service on Friday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m.



In *The Last Flight of Poxl West* by Daniel Torday, a 15-year-old boy named Eli worships his uncle Poxl, who writes a well-received memoir about his heroic exploits as a bomber pilot during World War II. But in the wake of the book's success, Eli discovers that Poxl is not

exactly who he has pretended to be.

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Congregation Kol Ami Jewish Summer Camp Scholarships

If your son or daughter plans to attend a Jewish summer camp in 2016, our Congregation is pleased to award needs-based scholarships through the Youth Fund. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of requests received.

If your child plans to participate in a trip to Israel through a peer-led organization, we are pleased to offer incentive scholarships depending on the length of the trip. The Discover Israel Fund exists through the generosity of Steward and Sally Eisenberg.

Application forms are available by contacting our executive director, Elaine Stevens, at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org. ■

Save the Dates & Come Smile with Us...

"Fun-for-Kids" erev Shabbat Services

This 6:00 p.m. service is appropriate for all ages. It's a happy half-hour with lots of music and our terrific student choir.

- **January 8** (no student choir)
- **January 22**
- **February 19**
- **April 8**
- **April 29** ■



SHIR SHABBAT

**"And the women dancing with
their timbrels followed Miriam
as she sang her song..."**

—Debbie Friedman

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, AT 7:30 P.M.

Please join us at our fifth annual *Shir Shabbat* (Song of Shabbat) service led by the women of our Congregation in gratitude to the women who led us in song through the Sea of Reeds (that week's Torah Portion) on our way from Egypt to Mount Sinai. This service will also feature music by female composers.

Contact Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz (rebeccasongs@verizon.net or 215-572-6094) no later than Wednesday, January 6, if you would like to participate in this wonderful service by leading us in English or Hebrew readings. Mothers and daughters are encouraged to participate together.



DENIM & *Diamonds*

9TH ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, January 9, 2016

7pm - 11pm

Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי

WINNINGS PROVIDED AS RAFFLE TICKETS
FOR FANTASTIC PRIZES!

\$35/person in advance

\$45/person at the door

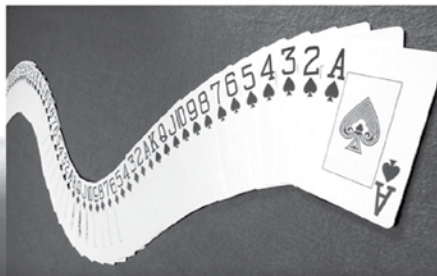
Tickets include \$25 in gaming chips, open bar, light fare and dessert

FOR TICKETS:

Send your check to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road,
Elkins Park, PA 19027 with "Casino Night" on the memo line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharon Myers at 215-460-0602 or sharonmyers381@gmail.com



BAT MITZVAH OF HOPE FALON-MAZER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, AT 10:00 A.M.
IN THE CHAPEL



Hope is in the seventh grade at Abington Friends School. Her favorite subjects are Science and Social Studies. She really enjoys Science because she gets to do many hands-on things. She likes Social Studies because she learns about history. Hope's extracurricular activities at school are book club, soccer, and makerspace, where things are made with tools and machines. Her interests out of school are soccer and Hebrew school.

At school, Hope is involved with SHARE, a food-packaging warehouse for those in need. A group of kids goes there to package food for people who can't afford it. This happens a few times through the year. For her *Mitzvah* project, she would like to do something that has to do with helping others, most preferably sports related.

At school, Hope is involved with SHARE, a food-packaging warehouse for those in need. A group of kids goes there to package food for people who can't afford it. This happens a few times through the year. For her *Mitzvah* project, she would like to do something that has to do with helping others, most preferably sports related.

"My favorite Jewish holy day is *Yom Kippur* because it is a day to forgive and a day to say your sins. I also like it because it makes me feel like I am resetting my life and am able to make it better. I love all the Jewish holy days, but this is the one that is very special to me.

"A particularly powerful, insightful, and transforming experience I had that changed the way I look at something or someone was the time when I spent a week in San Francisco. It changed the way that I saw people. It showed me that there are people much less fortunate than me. It made me very sad and, at the same time, scared. Although I knew that I was very lucky not to be in their unfortunate state, you never know when something like this might happen to you, so I didn't take my happiness for granted.

"I enjoy being Jewish because you have the feeling of being part of a community full of kindness. I also like it that you have a lot of people who support you and care about you. The other thing I enjoy about being Jewish is that I get to learn and talk about the *Torah* and our ancestors. I am proud to be Jewish because it helps me act in ways that I might not have if I wasn't Jewish. For example, giving *tzedakah* because I believe it is a nice

continued page 17

BAT MITZVAH OF JENNA MARGASAK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, AT 5:30 P.M.



Jenna is in the seventh grade at Cedarbrook Middle School. Her favorite subjects are Science and Social Studies. Her extracurricular activities at school include band, soccer, and track as well as volunteering hours to work for the National Junior Honor Society.

Outside of school, a few of Jenna's interests are playing soccer for a travel team, arts and crafts, and drawing.

At school, she has volunteered at the community Harvest Festival and at food drives through our synagogue. For her *Mitzvah* project, she will volunteer at the Self-Help and Resource Exchange program, also known as the SHARE program, a non-profit organization that provides nutritious meals to over 20,000 low-income families each month. She chose to volunteer at this organization for her *Mitzvah* project because she has been to food drives in the past and loved feeling that she was making a difference and helping people who are less fortunate.

"I am glad that I am a Jew, and I have a sense of pride in being Jewish. Determination and perseverance are the qualities that come to my mind when I think about our history. It is not easy to be Jewish, and we have overcome many obstacles, but we still remain strong. Some of these obstacles include being slaves in Egypt, living without a Jewish homeland for thousands of years, and the Holocaust. All of these things were so terrible and tragic, but they found a way to move past them.

"It reminds me of a book my parents used to read me when I was younger called We're Going on a Bear Hunt. Part of the story reads: 'We're going on a bear hunt. We're going to catch the big one. What a beautiful day! We're not scared. Oh-oh! A snowstorm! A swirling, whirling snowstorm. We can't go over it. We can't go under it. Oh, no! We've got to go through it!'

"My favorite Jewish holy days are Passover and *Hanukkah* because they both start with family. On *Hanukkah*, happiness surrounds me when I go to my aunt's house with my cousins and grandparents, where we eat my Dad's delicious *latkes* and play *dreidel*. At our *Seder*, each of us takes turns reading from the *Haggadah*, which tells about the exodus from Egypt that led to

continued page 17



Tickets are still available. If you would like to attend, please contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org now!

Congregation Kol Ami

Group Night Out with the 76ers

GAME INFORMATION

Jewish Heritage Night
Philadelphia 76ers vs. Boston Celtics
 Saturday, January 23 @ 7:00 p.m.

PACKAGE INFORMATION

- 5:30 p.m. - Early access to watch pre-game shoot around
- Specially priced group ticket
- Group seating
- Sixers drawstring bag gift

ORDER FORM

GAME DATE	#TICKETS	TICKET INFORMATION	PRICE	TOTAL
1/23		Lower-Level Corners	\$49	
1/23		Mezzanine Corners	\$26	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				\$

PAYMENT METHOD

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL _____

Check made payable to: Congregation Kol Ami

8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

DEADLINE

Wednesday, December 9

Contact Adam Baker with any questions at
 215-558-2772 or adambaker@sixers.com

Please join us for the ninth annual Hazon CSA

Tu B'Shvat Seder

at Congregation Kol Ami

Sunday, January 24, 5:30-8:00 p.m.



Learn, be inspired, sing, taste symbolic fruits and nuts, drink four cups of wine and enjoy a delicious vegetarian soup-and-salad dinner as we celebrate the New Year of the Trees.

*Special participation by Kol Ami 4th/5th grade class!
with Song Leader Lia Hyman!!*

The Hazon Tu B'Shvat Haggadah

Designed to help you think about your responsibility towards the natural world on four different levels: physical space, community, world, and spirituality. Each section of the *Haggadah* offers texts, questions, and activities to spark conversation around our *Seder* table related to one of these four levels of responsibility. What can we learn from this ancient tradition about ourselves and our earth?



The Seder is Open to Friends & Family

- \$5 for Elkins Park Hazon CSA members
- \$10 for non-CSA members
- Free for Kol Ami Religious School students!
- Registration is required. RSVP with number of adults and children to csa@kolami.info or (215) 635-3110 by Monday, January 18.



- Bring your own reusable or bio-compostable place settings: dinner and dessert plates, soup bowl and spoon, fork, drinking cup, wine glass, and napkin.
- Bring wine to share with your table – both white and red are needed for the *Seder*.
- Grape juice will be provided. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; *Seder* starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. @ Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park.

Like to help with preparation? **Sign up** to make a cookie or bar-type dessert with a fruit/nut theme and/or help with kitchen prep on the day of event, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

11th Anniversary Musical Collaboration of
the Cantors & Choirs of the Old York Road Kehillah

OLD YORK ROAD STORY

Rebecca Schwartz is collecting
the money for tickets.
Contact her at
rebeccasongs@verizon.net.

Sunday, January 31 4pm

A Musical Celebration of Leonard Bernstein

with performances by:

Hazzan Howard Glantz, Congregation Adath Jeshurun
Cantor Amy E. Levy, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz, Congregation Kol Ami
Hazzan Jeffrey Weber, Beth Sholom Congregation
Cantor Elena Zarkh, OYR Temple-Beth Am
and the Adult Choirs of the Old York Road Kehillah
Hazzan David Tilman, Music Director

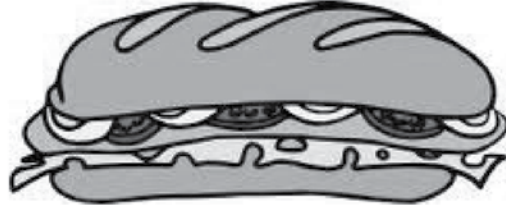
Tickets: \$10 adults / \$12 at door | \$5 students / \$7 at door
at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel | (215)887-8700

8339 Old York Rd. Elkins Park



in partnership with
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Congregation Kol Ami Super Bowl Sunday 2016 Hoagie Sale



**Planning to host a Super Bowl party or
just tired of cooking?
We can help!**

Members and friends of Kol Ami are invited to order hoagies provided by Heritage Hoagies in Huntingdon Valley. The 10-inch hoagies can be picked up in the lobby of Kol Ami on **Sunday, February 7, at Noon**. All profits from the sale will be used to support the Congregation.

Questions? Contact Deborah Poppel at dpoppel1@verizon.net



Please fill out and return the form below by
Wednesday, February 3, 2016



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

All hoagies come with lettuce, tomato, and onion **unless otherwise specified**. Please specify mayo or oil and hot or sweet peppers.

		Lettuce/Tomato/Onion	Mayo or Oil	Hot or Sweet
# of Turkey Hoagies:				
# of Tuna Hoagies:				
# of Cheese Hoagies: (American, Provolone & Swiss)				

Total # of Hoagies: _____ @ \$7.00 = Total Payment \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Congregation Kol Ami

BAT MITZVAH - HOPE FALON-MAZER

(continued from page 12)

thing to do. I am also proud to be Jewish because it makes me different from other people. Not many people I know are Asian and Jewish too. That is why I like being a Jew and am proud to be one.

"I chose my verses to read from the *Torah* portion (Exodus 14: 19-31) because I really liked the suspense and because the parting of the Red Sea is a big event in the *Torah*. What we can take from this story is that you should never give up. This ties with the story because the Israelites didn't give up on Moses, even though they wanted to, to bring them to their promise land."

We congratulate Hope's parents, Janet Falon and Cary Mazer. ■

BAT MITZVAH - JENNA MARGASAK

(continued from page 12)

God giving us the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. If everyone followed the commandments, the world would be a much more peaceful place.

"I chose Exodus 18:17-23 and 19:18-23 for my *Torah* Portion because of the two messages I found inside. The first is that everyone has to play a part, to take responsibility and not be a bystander or expect that someone else will do things for you. We are better when we act as a team, working together! The second is that if you try to do too many things yourself, you will burn out and only achieve a portion of what you intended. In addition, I chose them because of how detailed and descriptive they are. Just by reading or listening to them, you can mentally form a picture from the words. It can make you feel like you were in that part of the portion.

"The *V'ahavtah* is one of my favorite prayers. I love the tune of it, and it describes the need to pass down our traditions and values of our faith to future generations so we can keep our religion alive. This prayer is part of our worship service because if we don't pass along our Jewish rituals, we won't have a Jewish religion for future generations. The theme of this prayer, a love of God and passing down faith, can apply to my life. If I find something important to me, and I want the future generations to experience it, I can't just expect them to figure it out on their own. I have to pass things down to teach them."

We congratulate Jenna's parents, Jeffrey and Robynn, and her brother, Jacob, who celebrated his *Bar Mitzvah* in September 2012 and his Confirmation in May 2015. He is now a student in our LAMED post-Confirmation program. ■

KOL AMI EVENTS (continued from page 9)

Torday, a professor at Bryn Mawr College, demonstrates how memoir and fiction blur and how hard it is to convey truth. His debut novel also explores such relevant themes of love and loss, war, heroism, memory and memoir. The *Last Flight of Poxl West* is the One Book, One Lower Merion community selection for 2015.

CONGREGATION MEMBERS JOIN US

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY: "STOP HUNGER NOW" MEAL-PACKING PROGRAM

Sunday, January 17, at 2:00 p.m.

Stop Hunger Now's mission is "to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable and by creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources." The meal-packing program perfected the assembly process that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a flavoring mix including 21 essential vitamins and minerals into small meal packets. Each meal costs only 29 cents. The food stores easily, has a shelf-life of two years, and transports quickly. Stop Hunger Now works with international partners that ship and distribute the meals in-country. Join our religious school children and their parents as we volunteer to make 10,000 meal packets.

"STRONGER TOGETHER" - SUPER SUNDAY

February 21 at the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, 272 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA; under the umbrella of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Join co-chairs Rabbi Holin and Ellen Matz, along with other members of our Congregation, at our Jewish community's annual "day of calling – day of giving" that enables our Federation to support people in need as well as synagogues and organizations devoted to education and *tikun olam*.

Shift hours are from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 12:30-5:00 p.m., and 5:00-8:30 p.m. To register, call 215-832-0630 or visit www.jewishphilly.org/super-sunday-2016.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER ANNUAL SHABBAT DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Friday, February 26, at 6:45 p.m.

We need your help with this Early-Learning-Center-sponsored event. Here's how: 1) donate items to be auctioned, for example, gift certificates, museum tickets, art items, etc. and/or 2) attend the auction and bid on baskets. We would love to see you attend and support our event. Please contact Sheri Cutler at 215-635-4180 for more information. ■

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

ERNEST KOCH

JANUARY 4 - FEBRUARY 15



My primary goal is to continue to explore the creative opportunities available to me through the digital medium – to turn ordinary photographs into extraordinary works of art.

I was born in Philadelphia on July 10, 1947, the second of four children, and grew up in Germantown, then Feltonville, and then Bucks County. Today, I reside in Southampton. I became fascinated with photography as a child while “playing” with my mother’s Kodak® Brownie camera. That fascination became a passion while I was in the Army in the late 60s, a passion that continues today. I taught myself about photography by reading various photography magazines as well as great books authored by Ansel Adams. I believe photography is not simply a picture on a piece of paper. To a photographer, each picture is, truly, a work of art.

My trade in life has been commercial construction project management. I supplemented that income in the 80s by doing wedding photography which, in turn, financed my photography wants and needs. Now that I am retired, I expect to dedicate myself entirely to my photographic vocation/passion.

The Kol Ami gallery hours are Wednesday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If the religious school is closed on those days, the gallery is also closed. All of Ernest’s works are for sale. See Elaine Stevens if interested in purchasing a piece.

An opening reception will be held on Sunday, January 10, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. ■

GETTING TO KNOW THE... SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE



JODY SMITH LONG AND ROCKY WEINSTOCK

Social Action Committee meetings are lively, productive, and informative. We meet every few months and invite you to come check us out. We partner with local non-profit organizations and organize and lead meaningful activities and events that embody the spirit of *Tikun Olam*. We strive to support our regional neighbors by helping to alleviate food insecurity and homelessness, improve the environment, mentor, share resources, and cultivate community.

As current co-chairs, we are both relatively new to the committee. Thankfully the resources, guidance, and dedication provided and modeled by the previous leadership have made the transition seamless. We are delighted by the collaborative camaraderie of our members and the wealth of experience they bring. While our current focus is on sustaining and strengthening the relationships and programs that are already established, we are open to and welcome new ideas and fresh perspectives. Feel free to reach out to either one of us and to come to one of our meetings.

Jody Smith Long and her family have been active members of Kol Ami since its inception. Her daughters were both blessed by Rabbi Holin when they were born and were *Bat Mitzvah* and confirmed. Her experiences as an artist, educator, energy healer, and avid meditator contribute to the positive attitude and unique perspective she brings to the Social Action Committee.

Rocky Weinstock and his family have been members of Kol Ami for only a few years, though his relationship with Rabbi Holin dates back to the 70s when he attended Rodeph Shalom (in the same building) for Hebrew School. His background in art, education, and engineering bring an analytical bent to the committee meetings. ■

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: THE COHBRA FAMILY



We are very pleased to introduce new members Sara and Larry Cohbra, their son, Atticus, and their daughter, Malina. They recently moved to Elkins Park from San Francisco and joined Kol Ami after attending a “Fun-for-Kids” *Shabbat* service in September.

Sara and Larry explain that they were looking for a progressive synagogue to join, especially one that was small and friendly. They literally drove past our congregation by happenstance, had an inkling that they should look us up online, and then they initiated contact with us. It was a good fit.

Sara was born and raised in San Francisco, though her family of origin is originally from New York, while Larry was born and raised in New York, but had lived in San Francisco for the past 20 years. (If Larry and Sara need to wax nostalgic with someone about their history in the Bay Area, Rabbi Holin is their man!)

Sara is currently an attorney working in the federal defender’s office, and Larry is a teacher. Atticus is in third grade, and Malina is in kindergarten. The kids

like their new school (Wyncote Elementary School), and things are working out well for the whole family.

They enjoy hiking, biking, and visiting “cool museums,” citing the Franklin Institute in particular.

We are happy that the Cohbras found us and made us the “chosen ones,” and we are thrilled to return the favor. Welcome to Kol Ami! ■

If you have a friend, relative, colleague, or acquaintance who would be a great addition to our intimate-and-dynamic community, contact one of our Membership co-chairs: Julie Cohen, 215-635-4716, or Robin Warsaw, 215-635-5839. They would be happy to reach out and make a connection to share membership benefits and information as necessary.

FOSTER-CHILD GIFT CAMPAIGN

by Ruth Hausen

Our 10th annual foster-child gift campaign went really well. Generous members of the synagogue and the Huntingdon Valley Junior Women’s Club combined to give over \$1,500 plus a wide variety of specially purchased gifts for the children.

These foster children are clients of CONCERN, a not-for-profit nondenominational foster care agency with its local headquarters in Willow Grove. They were very excited for the gifts. Most of the children will receive these gifts from Santa Claus. I accepted a lot of hugs on your behalf. Hopefully, next year, we’ll do this again! ■



KOL AMI EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Our Early Learning Center children enjoyed their Thanksgiving and *Hanukkah* activities, which included: making and eating treats as well as a Thanksgiving feast while dressed in self-made costumes, creating turkey posters, partaking in a PJ party, singing *Hanukkah* songs with Miss Rebecca, and more.



KOL AMI JANUARY 2016 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Early Learning Center CLOSED erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	2 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
3 Religious School CLOSED	4 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m.	5 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	6 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	7	8 Early Learning Center erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Rabbi Holin 11:00 a.m. “Fun-for-Kids” erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 6:00 p.m. “Second-Friday” erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	9 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Casino Night 7:00 p.m.
10 Trobe Class 9:10 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. “Music & Musings” 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 p.m. Religious School PTO Meeting 11:00 p.m. Artist Open House Ernest Koch 2:00 p.m.	11 Operations Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	12 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	13 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	14 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Orly Maravankin 7:30 p.m.	15 Early Learning Center erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service with guest speaker Beverly Rosen 7:30 p.m.	16 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.

KOL AMI JANUARY 2016 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17 Religious School CLOSED Martin Luther King Day: "Stop Hunger Now" Program 2:00 p.m.	18 Early Learning Center CLOSED	19 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Social Action Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	20 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	21 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Orly Maravankin 7:30 p.m.	22 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. "Fun-for-Kids" erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir 6:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - Complimentary Pizza Dinner Women-led Shir Shabbat 7:30 p.m.	23 Bat Mitzvah of Hope Falon-Mazer 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel 76ers Jewish Heritage Night 7:00 p.m.
24 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - Gr 6 & 7 to NMAJH 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 p.m. Inclusion Committee Meeting 10:30 a.m. Tu B'Shvat Seder 5:30 p.m.	25 Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:00 p.m.	26 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. "Conversations" 7:30 p.m. Home of Jonathan Smolowe and Vera Frumin	27 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	28 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Orly Maravankin 7:30 p.m.	29 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	30 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Carol Nemeroff will give the <i>dvar Torah</i> Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Margasak 5:30 p.m.
31 Trope Class 9:10 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - Gr 6&7 Family Educ. Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 p.m. Kehillah Cantors and Adult Choirs Collaboration 4:00 p.m. Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel						

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE APPLIED

Below is a list of the available Kol Ami funds:

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to invite scholars, authors, and artists to speak about: Jewish history and contemporary issues; their motivation for writing about specific themes; and their interpretation through art and music about Jewish life in the past and present.

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

Enables us to provide funding for cultural programs, including music and arts, the preservation and maintenance of artwork within the synagogue, and the beautification of the meditation garden.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH & CONFIRMATION FUND

Enables us to provide appropriate gifts (books, kiddush cups, and Shabbat candlesticks) when our young adults celebrate their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and Confirmations.

"DISCOVER ISRAEL" FUND

Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in approved peer-group trips to Israel.

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND FUND

Enables us to underwrite the cost of Family Camp Weekend programs and to welcome specialists on a "weekend away" to explore a Jewish theme with our rabbi.

FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to underwrite the cost for our programs and to welcome guest speakers to special events.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to offer age-appropriate programs to our religious school students. A variety of educational initiatives will be sponsored, including, but not limited, to speaker programs, intolerance awareness, and travel to memorial museums/sites—all with a focus on its current relevance.

LIBRARY FUND

Enables us to purchase books for the education and enjoyment of our children, youth, and adults.

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Enables us to provide refreshments following Shabbat services.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Enables Rabbi Holin to perform *mitzvot* for those in need, in the name of the Congregation.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Enables us to provide resources and programs for the benefit of our children in religious school.

SYNAGOGUE FUND

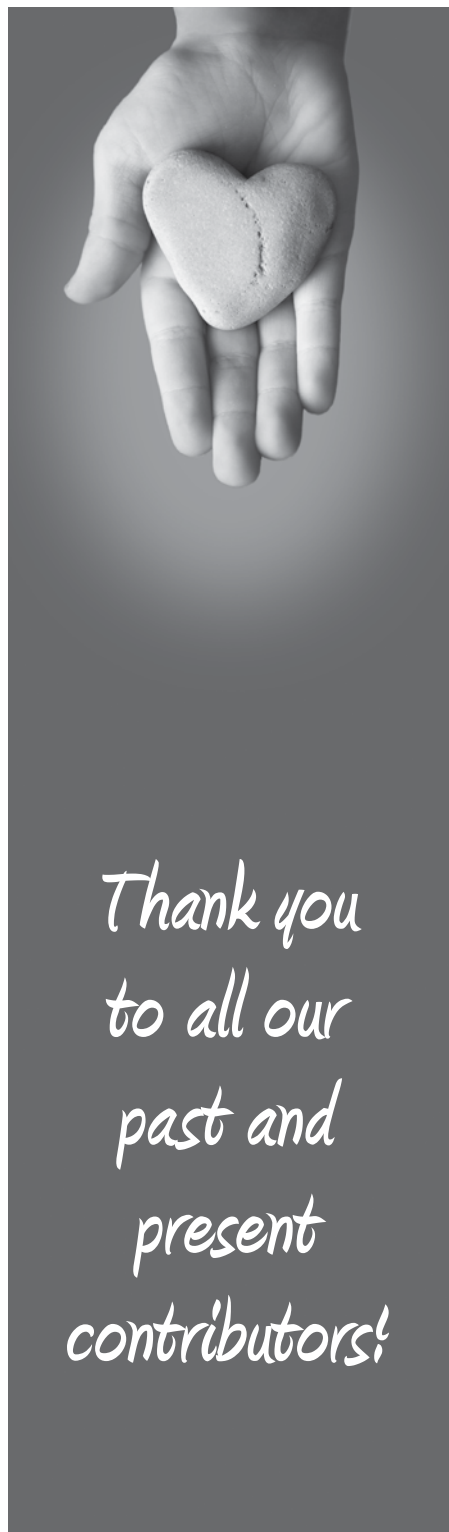
Enables us to provide for the general well-being of the Congregation.

YOUTH FUND

Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in Jewish enrichment experiences at camps, youth enclaves, and other programs. ■

Kol Ami Contributions

We thank the following individuals for their generous donations to Kol Ami funds. If you would like to make a donation, send it to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027, and indicate to which fund it should be applied.



ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

Rebecca Schwartz

Shirley Horowitz

In Memory of:

Harold Horowitz

Mark and Karin Kaplan

Paul and Mindy Levy

Jacob Marberger

Gregory Brown and Sara Reiter

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

Special birthday of Paul Levy

Paul and Mindy Levy

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Barry and Michele Steinbrecher

In Honor of:

The Bat Mitzvah of our daughter, Gabby, and Rabbi Holin's help and support

Jeffrey Wexler and Robin Casten

Our special birthdays

Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Memory of:

Harold Horowitz

Donna Wierzbowski ■



NOW



LATER



JANUARY

- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, at 6:00 p.m.**
6:00 p.m. - "Fun-for-Kids" *erev Shabbat* Service
7:30 p.m. - "Second-Friday *erev Shabbat* Service"
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, at 7:00 p.m.**
Casino Night
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**
10:00 a.m. - "Music & Musings"
11:00 a.m. - Religious School PTO Meeting
2:00 p.m. - Artist Open House: Ernest Koch
- **MONDAY, JANUARY 11, at 7:30 p.m.**
Operations Committee Meeting
- **THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 21 & 28, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with Orly Maravankin
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, at 7:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service w/Book Reviewer Beverly Rosen
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, at 2:00 p.m.**
"Stop Hunger Now" Program
- **TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, at 7:00 p.m.**
Social Action Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 22**
6:00 p.m. - "Fun-for-Kids" *erev Shabbat* Service
with Student Choir, preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a
complimentary pizza dinner
7:30 p.m. - Women-Led *Shir Shabbat* Service
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 23**
10:00 a.m. - *Bat Mitzvah* of Hope Falon-Mazer
7:00 p.m. - 76ers Jewish Heritage Night
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 24**
10:30 a.m. - Inclusion Committee meeting
5:30 p.m. - *Tu B'Shvat Seder*
- **MONDAY, JANUARY 25, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, at 7:30 p.m.**
"Conversations" at home of Jonathan Smolowe
and Vera Frumin
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;
Carol Nemeroff will give the *dvar Torah*
5:30 p.m. - *Bat Mitzvah* of Jenna Margasak
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, at 4:00 p.m.**
Adult Choir Communal Concert at Keneseth Israel

FEBRUARY

- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, at 7:30 p.m.**
Membership Committee Meeting
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 9, 16 & 23, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with Cary Mazer
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**
10:00 a.m. - "Music & Musings"
11:00 a.m. - Religious School PTO Meeting
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue, followed by a
potluck lunch
- **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, at 6:00 p.m.**
"Fun-for-Kids" *erev Shabbat* Service
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:p.m.**
Super Sunday at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in
Bryn Mawr, PA
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, at 9:30 a.m.**
Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, at 6:45 p.m.**
Early Learning Center *Shabbat* Dinner and Silent
Auction
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, at 10:00 a.m.**
Social Action Committee "Cook for a Friend" ■